

COMMENTS AND ARGUMENTS

The specification has been amended to correct errors as set forth by the examiner in the last office action and as further noted by the applicant.

Claims 1-11, 20 and 21 have been indicated by the examiner as being allowable.

Claims 12, 15-17 and 22-32 are considered allowable over the prior art for the following reasons:

None of the prior art discloses one or more light emitting diodes located adjacent an objective lens and in a hollow elongated body of a microscope having two oculars and a lens magnification changer as recited in claim 12. The only prior art of record using an LED and of any pertinence is patent No, 5,841,509 to Harooni et al. This patent discloses an LED 145 located in an illumination assembly 130 located outside the viewing assemblies 125, 125' and including a mirror 160, 210 for directing light to a lens 170. Harooni et al does not include a lens magnification changer as recited. Even though lens magnification changers are known, there is no teaching in the prior art of record that would lead one of ordinary skill in the art to provide two oculars, a lens magnification changer as recited, one or more LEDs and a objective lens in a single elongated hollow body. In the Muchel et al patent 4,516,231, there is no lens magnification hanger of the type recited in claim 12. The structure at 6,7,8 in Muchel et al are zoom lens systems. In Takizawa et al 4,396,260, the light sources 3 and 4 are located outside of the microscope and direct light to eye E.

In regard to claim 15, none of the prior art teaches one or more light emitting diodes located in a hollow elongated body adjacent an objective lens and having a reflector behind the light emitting diodes and/or a pivotally mounted light filter in front of the one or more light emitting diodes.

In regard to claim 16, none of the prior art (including Blaha et al 4,175,826) teaches pivotally mounting the oculars in a plane that is common to the first and second optical paths as set forth in claim 12, and there is no logical way that the Blaha et al patent could be combined with Muchel et al and Takizawa et al to meet the terminology in this claim.

In regard to claim 17, none of the prior art including Fukaya et al 5,420,716 teaches an adjustable arm connected to a support at one end and at an opposite end to a microscope by a connection allowing pivoting at the microscope in any direction and an attachment connecting the microscope to the head of an operator.

In regard to claim 22 and 23, Fogle, 3,434,772 does not teach two oculars prism assemblies and a lens magnification changer mounted on a base section of an internal mount located within a hollow elongated body or within a hollow elongated body formed by shells fastened together and enclosing the internal mount. There are no teachings in Fogle of doing such that would make it obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the Muchel et al patent to meet the limitations of either of these claims.

Claims 25-32 are considered patentable for the following reasons: None of the prior art including the Fogle patent, teaches a microscope having an internal mount having a base section with two oculars, a prism assembly adjacent each ocular and a lens magnification changer having two series of bores all located on the base section. The internal mount has an upper shell removably connected to it by fastening means and enclosing the lens magnification changer, prism assemblies and part of the oculars. It is not seen that one of ordinary skill in the art would think of combining the teachings of any of the art of record to meet the limitations as set forth in claim 25 especially since none of the prior art teaches this combination.

Also, none of the prior art further teaches a lower housing shell located below the internal mount and connected to the internal mount and upper shell housing to form an enclosure for the internal mount and an objective lens located in an end of the enclosure as recited in claim 26.

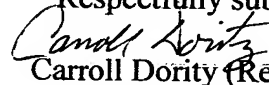
None of the prior art teaches the oculars, prism assemblies, lens magnification changer and objective lens being in a common plane as recited in claim 27 or that the oculars being mounted on the internal mount for movement relative to each other as in claim 28.

None of the prior art teaches one or more light emitting diodes located in a microscope adjacent an objective lens as recited in claim 29 or a reflector and filter as recited in claim 30.

None of the prior art, including Fukaya 5,420,716, teaches an adjustable arm connected at one end to a support and at an opposite end to a microscope by a joint allowing pivotal movement at the microscope in any direction and an attachment for connecting the microscope to the head of an operator as recited in claim 31.

None of the prior art teaches a microscope as set forth in claim 26 and including a beam splitter for directing a portion of light in an optical path to be directed exterior of the microscope to a camera as set forth in claim 32.

For the reasons as stated above, it is believed that all claims in the application should be found allowable and the application passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

Carroll Dority (Reg. 33148)
(301) 292-2750
Fax: (301) 292-8775
e-mail: cbd813@aol.com
For
Dr. Paul Piontkowski